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Lettre datée du 20 décembre 2016, adressée au Président du Conseil de sécurité par le Secrétaire général

Les faits survenus ces trois dernières années montrent que, loin d'être isolée ou secondaire, la violence sexuelle contre les femmes, les filles et les garçons qui va de pair avec la montée de l'extrémisme violent est généralisée, systématique et intimement liée aux objectifs stratégiques des groupes extrémistes et terroristes. Il est aujourd'hui communément admis que des groupes tels que l'État islamique d'Iraq et du Levant (EIIL) et ses associés utilisent la violence sexuelle comme tactique de terrorisme pour atteindre leurs objectifs stratégiques et idéologiques, comme je l'ai souligné avec préoccupation dans mes deux derniers rapports au Conseil de sécurité sur les violences sexuelles liées aux conflits (S/2015/203 et S/2016/361/Rev.1).

En application des résolutions 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2242 (2015) et 2253 (2015), le bureau de ma Représentante spéciale chargée de la question des violences sexuelles commises en période de conflit a établi un rapport spécial sur les crimes perpétrés par l'EIIL en Iraq et en République arabe syrienne qui expose, en particulier, les aspects transfrontaliers de ces crimes (voir annexe). Les informations préliminaires qui y sont présentées peuvent permettre aux membres du Conseil de mieux cerner la problématique de l'utilisation systématique de la violence sexuelle comme tactique de terrorisme et ses liens avec la traite et le commerce d'êtres humains. Ce rapport contient plusieurs recommandations, adressées en particulier au Comité du Conseil de sécurité faisant suite aux résolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) et 2253 (2015) concernant l'État islamique d'Iraq et du Levant (Daech), Al-Qaida et les personnes, groupes, entreprises et entités qui leur sont associés, ainsi que des conclusions et observations utiles pour d'autres acteurs intervenant au niveau des politiques.

Je vous serais obligé de bien vouloir porter le texte de la présente lettre et de son annexe à l'attention des membres du Conseil de sécurité.

(*Signé*) **BAN** Ki-moon

Annexe

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OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

SPECIAL REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

Submission to the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities

DECEMBER 2016

I- Introduction

Developments over the course of the past three years have demonstrated that the targeting of women, girls and boys for sexual violence that accompanies the rise of violent extremism is not ancillary or incidental, but widespread, systematic and integrally linked with the strategic objectives of extremist groups.[1] There is today global recognition and consensus that violent extremist groups, like ISIL (Da'esh) and its affiliates, are using sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism to advance their strategic and ideological objectives.

The present submission by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (hereafter referred to as "the Office") is focused on crimes committed by ISIL in the context of Iraq/Syria, particularly their cross-border dimensions. In this regard, the Office has deepened its knowledge and analytical base through first-hand information collected from victims and witnesses of violations committed by this group. Specifically, the Office supported the deployment of a conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) expert to the Middle East for a period of two months (from November 2015 to January 2016) in order to deepen the level of information, documentation and analysis of CRSV incidents, patterns and trends. This mission was undertaken as a follow-up to the scoping visit of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to the Middle East conducted in April 2015, in the framework of resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010) and 2106 (2013), which call for strengthened monitoring, analysis and reporting of CRSV. Special attention was given to the use of sexual violence by violent extremist groups as a tactic of terrorism, as presented in the last two annual Reports of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, particularly in Section III on sexual violence committed in the context of violent extremism, including as a tactic of terrorism. The present submission draws upon information collected from primary and secondary sources throughout this mission, which enabled the Office to engage with a range of relevant interlocutors, including inter alia victims and witnesses; community members; religious and traditional leaders; international and local civil society; national authorities in Iraq and Syria; and UN system partners.

The present submission should be read in conjunction with the latest two Reports of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (S/2016/361/Rev.1 and S/2015/203). It also builds upon the information reported by the Fact-Finding Mission deployed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to Iraq in 2015 and the Independent Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab

[1] *Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, 23 March 2015 (S/2015/203), at para 83: "Sexual violence is not incidental, but integrally linked with the strategic objectives, ideology and funding of extremist groups. It is used to advance such tactical imperatives as recruitment; terrorizing populations into compliance; displacing communities from strategic areas; generating revenue through sex trafficking, the slave trade, ransoms, looting and the control of natural resources; torture to elicit intelligence; conversion and indoctrination through forced marriage; and to establish, alter or dissolve kinship ties that bind communities."*

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Republic in 2016, which shows that ISIL committed, and continues to commit to the present day, crimes of sexual violence and sexual slavery on an unprecedented scale against ethnic and religious minorities, including the Yazidi population of Northern Iraq.

The present submission does not purport to be comprehensive, but is rather illustrative and indicative, of the scale and character of violations by ISIL. The evidence supports further the contention that sexual violence by ISIL is premeditated, systematic and strategic, and is being used to increase their power and finances in a number of ways. As such, this information is directly relevant to the mandate and work of the 1267 Committee. Specifically, it presents preliminary information that can serve as a basis for the consideration of listing of individuals, and deepening knowledge and understanding of the systematic use of sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism and its links with the sale, trade and trafficking in persons. The report makes a number of recommendations specifically to the Committee, as well as some additional concluding observations/recommendations that are relevant to other policy level actors.

The submission aims to unpack and analyse the ways that sexual violence is used as a tactic of terrorism, focusing particularly on six specific dimensions, namely: 1) the use of sexual violence as part of the political economy of terrorism through the trafficking, sale, ransoming, and gifting (as a form of in-kind compensation) of women and children, providing a revenue stream for the financing of terrorism; 2) the use of sexual violence (i.e., the promise of "wives" and access to sex slaves) as a recruitment tool to attract fighters, including foreign terrorist fighters; 3) the exploitation of modern information and communication tools and technologies to sell women and children online for the purpose *inter alia* of sexual exploitation; 4) the instrumentalisation of medical professionals to perpetrate and facilitate sexual violence (including hormone injections to accelerate the physical maturation of girls, forced abortion of children conceived by "infidels", etc.); 5) the threat and use of sexual violence and abduction to terrorise and forcibly displace (both internally and to third countries) targeted minorities, to clear contested or strategically important territory and extend ISIL control; and 6) to ensure the destruction of targeted communities through family separation and attacking the shared values and social norms that define and cohere group identity, including across generations. It also includes names of 11 individuals allegedly responsible for perpetrating sexual violence or being instrumental in facilitating the sale, trade and trafficking of women, girls and boys in the context of Iraq and Syria.

The confidential annexes that accompany the present submission are organized in three parts: 1) Names and photographs of alleged perpetrators; 2) Documents that demonstrate how sexual violence is being institutionalised and codified by ISIL; and 3) Specific case information, which gives an indicative sense of the profile of victims, sales negotiations and prices. **It should be noted that for purposes of strict confidentiality some information in the annexes and through the narrative of the report has been redacted. The redacted details can be made available to the 1267 Committee in closed briefing, or at individual request of Committee members.**

It is important also to note that the information collected and presented in the present document echoes reports received from other settings where ISIL and Al Qaida affiliates operate, including Boko Haram in Nigeria and Al Shabab in Somalia. Therefore, it is anticipated that further monitoring, analysis and reporting will be required in order to inform the 1267 Committee and other relevant mechanisms of the Security Council.

II- Mandate basis for the present submission

This submission is presented pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) and 1960 (2010), in which the Security Council expresses its intention to consider sanctions and other targeted measures against perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence, requests cooperation and information

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sharing between the mandate of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence and Conflict and Security Council Sanctions regimes, and calls for the inclusion of designation criteria for the imposition of sanctions pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence. Resolution 1820 (2008) recognized that sexual violence is often used as a "tactic of war", which threatens international peace and security, and reaffirmed that such violence can constitute a war crime, crime against humanity and/or a constituent act of genocide.

Resolution 1960 (2010) specifically "calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations entities, in particular (…) the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council Sanctions Committees, including through relevant United Nations Security Council Sanction Committees' monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence".

Resolution 2106 (2013) "Urges existing sanctions committees, where within the scope of the relevant criteria for designation, and consistent with resolution 1960 (2010) to apply targeted sanctions against those who perpetrate and direct sexual violence in conflict; and reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of serious sexual violence

In Resolution 2242 (2015), the Security Council "express[ed] deep concern that acts of sexual and gender-based violence are known to be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist groups, used as a tactic of terrorism, and an instrument to increase their power through supporting financing, recruitment, and the destruction of communities, as described in the Secretary-General's Report on Sexual Violence in Conflict of 23 March 2015 (S/2015/203)."2

When the Security Council addressed terrorist financing in resolution 2253 (2015), and expanded its Al Qaida sanctions list to include ISIL and affiliated persons and groups, the Council "condemn[ed] in the strongest terms abductions of women and children by ISIL [and] express[ed] outrage at their exploitation and abuse, including rape, sexual violence, forced marriage, and enslavement by these entities."3 Resolution 2253 also "encourag[ed] all State and non-state actors with evidence [of ISIL's exploitation and abuse] to bring it to the attention of the Council, along with any information that such human trafficking may support the perpetrators financially.4 The Security Council further "not[ed] that any person or entity who transfers funds to ISIL directly or indirectly in connection with such exploitation and abuse would be eligible for listing by the [Sanctions] Committee."5

Additionally, in the Security Council's first Presidential Statement on human trafficking, adopted in December 2015, the Council stated that: "The Security Council deplores all acts of trafficking in persons undertaken by [ISIL], including of Yazidis, as well as all ISIL's violations of international humanitarian law and abuses of human rights […] for the purpose of sexual slavery, sexual exploitation and forced labor, which may contribute to the funding and sustainment of such groups, and underscores that certain acts associated with trafficking in persons in the context of armed conflict may constitute war crimes."6

[2] S/RES/2242 (2015), preamble.
[3] S/RES/2253 (2015), preamble.
[4] *Ibid.*
[5] *Ibid.*
[6] Security Council Presidential Statement, 16 December 2015 (PRST/2015/25).

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III- Sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism

As articulated in the 2015 and 2016 Reports of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (S/2016/361/Rev.1 and S/2015/203) it is increasingly evident that sexual violence is among the core military, political, economic and ideological strategies or tactics employed by ISIL,[7] such as incentivizing **recruitment** through the promise of sexual access to women (i.e., "wives" and sex slaves for fighters); **financing** through the sale, trafficking, ransoming and gifting of women and girls; **advancing their ideology**, which includes the suppression of women's rights and freedoms, and the use of religious justifications for the revival of sexual slavery[8] and the taking of slaves and captives as part of the "spoils of war" in line with ancient practices and texts; **building and populating a so-called Islamic State** or Caliphate through the control of women's reproduction in order to give rise to a generation that can be groomed, indoctrinated and raised in their own image; **subjugating, controlling and forcibly displacing populations** from strategically important zones; and as a mean of **extracting operational information during interrogations**.

Furthermore, ISIL members flagrantly publicize these atrocities in order to institutionalize sexual violence and the brutalization of women and children as part of their policy. There is even evidence of so-called "marriage bureaux" being established in areas under their control, while publications and "fatwas" aimed at ISIL members and affiliates show how they have codified the systematic practice of taking sex slaves and institutionalized the use of sexual violence (including forced marriage and forced pregnancy) as part of their operations and nation-building enterprise (See supporting documents in Annex 2).

As an example, ISIL has consistently described the capture and enslavement of "infidel" women and children as an inevitable consequence of its conquest of new territory and seeks to regulate and codify sexual slavery, as expressed in its "fatwa" No. 64, of 29 January 2015. This is supported by the explicit justification of sexual enslavement articulated in its pamphlet of December 2014 entitled "Questions and answers on taking captives and slaves", and in volume 9 of its magazine, *Dabiq*, of May 2015, as well as in recent publications of its new magazine called *Rumiyah* (See Annex 2). The Office was able to substantiate and unpack the implications of this reasoning in discussions and interviews with survivors. One survivor reported, for example, that when she asked an ISIL fighter the reasons for his participation in tactics of separation of mothers from their children, followed by the rape of those women, he replied that he was only following orders and rules given by the Emirs, who, in turn, received them from Al Baghdadi. This confirmed that fighters consider sexual violence to be part of ISIL's broader policy. This both demonstrates command responsibility and also reinforces the evidence mentioned by the Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (A/HRC/32/CRP.2) about the overall intent and criminal liability of ISIL's military commanders, fighters, religious and ideological leaders, wherever they are located.

The violations committed in this context entail the use of various forms of sexual violence, including rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion and forced marriage. The interviews conducted by the Office with survivors and witnesses refer particularly to the gifting, sale,

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7 The use of sexual violence as an act or tactic of terrorism is not an isolated phenomenon. The 2016 Report lists seven terrorist groups/networks credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of sexual violence in situations on the Security Council agenda including: ISIL/Da'esh, Ansar Eddine, AQIM, Al-Shabaab, Nusrah Front, Boko Haram, Ahrar al-Sham, and other armed groups operating in contested areas of Syria.

8 The revival of sexual slavery before the hour is, according to ISIL's ideology, a harbinger of the apocalypse and thus the ultimate recruiting tool for attracting jihadists from around the globe to join the "final battle" in Dabiq.

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trade and trafficking of women and children among fighters and beyond for the purpose of sexual exploitation. It is also clear that ISIL employs different strategies against different targeted communities depending on their ethnic and religious identity (Christians, Yazidis, Turkmen Shia, etc.). It is a fact that most of the Yazidi women and girls who were abducted by ISIL were targeted for sexual violence crimes; there are allegations of sexual violence committed against 500-600 women and girls from the Turkmen Shia community who may still be in the hands of ISIL; while no reports of sexual violence have been received from the Christian community. This differentiation is based on the ideology of ISIL and how its members interpret Islam.

ISIL considers the Yazidis to be infidels and has publicly cited the Yazidis' faith as the basis for the attack of 3 August 2014 and subsequent abuses. ISIL has referred to the Yazidi as a "pagan minority [whose] existence [...] Muslims should question", adding that "their women could be enslaved [...] as spoils of war". For example, when ISIL invaded the Sinjar region of Iraq in August 2014, it specifically targeted and captured Yezidi civilians on the basis of their religion, and forcibly transferred them to multiple holding locations.9 At these locations, ISIL ordered the separation of Yezidi men and women, with the exception of boys who had not reached puberty who were allowed to remain with their mothers.10 Yezidi women and girls, below a certain age, were then subdivided into smaller groups of unmarried women, married women without children, and married women with children. These women and girls were individually recorded on lists.11 Many of the men and boys captured (as well as elderly women) were likely executed.12 Subsequently, Yezidi women and girls experienced several forcible transfers to sites in both Iraq and Syria,13 but all were eventually evaluated based on age, beauty, and virginity and then bought, sold, gifted, or even bequeathed and transferred by deceased ISIL fighters as part of their will or estate.14

Most of the information that the Office has been able to collect directly from victims and witnesses is related to the targeting of Yazidi women and children for sexual violence, which is reflected in the present submission. Despite different treatment depending on the age and marital status of the Yazidi victims, all of those who were sexually exploited were considered as slaves and as the "property" of the fighters, as evident in their inclusion in fighters' last will and testament, enabling them to be transferred once the fighter dies. One survivor reported to the Office that she had been transferred at least to 6 individuals over a period of 7 months.

Another disturbing trend reported by survivors is the way ISIL would punish women and children who would try to escape or refuse to abide by their demands, including sexual demands. They would face solitary confinement, torture, humiliation, restricted movements, separation from their children, and sometimes killing of their children through beating and poisoning.

The following section highlights a number of strategic dimensions and means that the Office found to be core to the widespread and systematic use of sexual violence by ISIL as a tactic of terrorism.

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9 See Syria Commission Report, para 43.

10 Ibid., para 30.

11 Ibid., para 43; OHCHR Report, paras 36–37.

12 Syria Commission Report, para 33.

13 Ibid., paras 49–50; OHCHR Report, para 36 (reporting one victim as being transferred to ten sites).

14 OHCHR Report, para 37; Syria Commission Report, para 62.

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(a) Financing strategy to sustain the group

In the recent Reports of the Secretary-General on the Threat Posed by ISIL to International Peace and Security (S/2016/92 and S/2016/501), it was noted that trafficking of women and girls remained a critical component of the financial flows to ISIL and its affiliates. Tactics such as the ransoming and sale of women and girls to mobilize resources and fund operations are key to ISIL's strategy. Some survivors indicated that these payments were taking place in Syrian Lira, Iraqi Dinar and US Dollars. Indeed, ISIL has an intricate system for the regulation and sale of enslaved women. Captured women are sold to ISIL fighters in markets (both physical and electronic). Prices for enslaved Yezidi women range, according to the testimonies of survivors and "smugglers", from $20 to $25,000 US Dollars based on factors such as age, beauty and virginity. Women and girls are also gifted to fighters in lieu of payment as a form of in-kind compensation for services rendered to Da'esh. Beyond the financial calculations, the significance of the gifting of women and girls by commanders or Emirs to combatants under their command should not be underestimated as a way to maintain the motivation and 'esprit de corps' of fighting units. The specific cases included in Annex 3 provide an indicative sense of pricing and negotiations of sale through online forums.

(b) Recruitment strategy to attract new fighters

As noted in the latest Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (S/2016/361/Rev.1), although the threat of sexual violence has been a "push" factor driving forced displacement of civilians, the offer of wives and sex slaves has been a strategic "pull" factor for the recruitment of men and boys, inducing both local youths and foreign fighters, to join ISIL's ranks. ISIL's recruitment propaganda includes the promise of access to women for young, single, economically marginalized men who seek status, power and sexual access that is not available in socially conservative contexts. ISIL's narrative includes the notion that it is the prerogative of their fighters to claim and capture women and girls as the "spoils of war". ISIL also has a large team of dedicated "online groomers" whose job it is to identify individuals who express an interest in the group on online forums. "Marriage bureaux" have been reportedly established in areas under ISIL control to encourage women to marry fighters.

(c) Use of information and communication tools to sell, trade or traffic women and children

In addition to being used for recruitment and the propagation of their ideology, communication platforms have been used by ISIL and its affiliates to secretly communicate through encrypted messaging and to sell women and girls through an online bidding process. ISIL has been using, in particular, an online encrypted messaging application called Telegram (See Annex 3). One of the features of Telegram is that it contains a secret chat whereby documents, videos, locations and images can be shared. The secret chat uses end-to-end encryption where only the sender and recipient can read the messages. Secret chat messages cannot be forwarded to others outside the conversation and no trace is left on their servers. When messages are deleted from one side of the conversation, the application on the other side of the secret chat will be ordered to delete them as well. Messages, photos, videos and files can be set to self-destruct in a set amount of time after they have been read or opened by the recipient. The message will then disappear from the device of the sender, as well as the recipient. All secret chats in Telegram are device-specific and are not subject to any sort of virtual "cloud" storage. This means a user can only access messages in a secret chat from their device of origin.

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Hidden among online "souks" or markets used to sell weapons, cars, suicide vests and other equipment, are markets for trading and selling women and children. These souks are "closed groups", which require a selection process with strict questions about ISIL as a form of verification to gain access. Once a person succeeds in the selection process, access is given to these souks by providing the new member with a code.

According to the Office's sources, there are a number of markets currently used to sell women and children[15]:

- The "Islamic state Mega mall" with about 500 members;
- The "Private souk for soldiers of the greater Caliphate" with about 200 members;
- The "Souk for weapons and supplies/munitions" with about 350 members;
- The "Monotheist Market" with about 50 members.

The Office received information indicating that ISIL fighters advertise pictures of very young girls and boys in these online markets. The pictures show girls dressed up and wearing make-up, seen in different positions. Prices are advertised on the pictures including additional information about the girl or boy. Once a picture is advertised, ISIL fighters can start bidding. Prices range from 3,000 USD to 20,000 USD. The younger the victim, the higher the bid. Pictures of little boys who are "considered not smart enough to memorize the Quran" in Madrassa Jihadia or are disabled are advertised in the Telegram app with the purpose to be sold as a slave and likely sexually abused. The Office received information that young boys from the age of 4-years-old are being sexually abused, and that attempts to buy back these children by the Yazidi community were often thwarted by factors such as insecurity, road closures during the handover of the money, arbitrary change of prices during the negotiations, etc.

These online markets complement the physical markets established in public places such as hospitals, police stations and prisons as well as in private places such as wedding halls and houses, where women and children are reportedly "selected and bought" by fighters and/or supporters of ISIL. There are also some indications related to the link with cross-border trafficking. For example, the Yezidi community networks with whom the Office is in contact, as well as survivors who have escaped ISIL captivity, allege that they know of women and girls captured by ISIL who have been trafficked outside the conflict zone to the wider region for the benefit of ISIL. The cross-border trafficking dimensions require deeper and more consistent investigation and monitoring, and international and regional cooperation.

(d) Instrumentalisation of medical doctors to facilitate sexual violence

ISIL has also used medical professionals to procure drugs and administer harmful treatments not justified by medical concerns, including hormone treatments to accelerate the physical maturation of young girls in order to expedite their sale and sexual exploitation, and drugging them to facilitate rape, thus making some physicians complicit in medicalized torture. Information shared by survivors refers to 5 girls who were forced to take hormones by a doctor. These hormones were given to make the girls appear older and to develop the bodies and breasts of adult women. The youngest of the 5 girls is said to be 12 years-old. Some doctors joined ISIL voluntarily, while others have been recruited under coercion. Their tasks also include carrying out virginity tests on women and girls and performing abortions.

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[15] *Other markets for the sale, trade and trafficking of women, girls and boys may exist but have not been verified by the Office.*

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In some cases, survivors indicated that doctors were offered women and girls for their "own use" as was reported in the case of an Iraqi doctor, known as Doctor [redacted] (Listed in Section IV) who has been reportedly receiving girls from ISIL. Another [redacted] doctor, called Doctor [redacted] (See Section IV), director of a clinic in Mosul, who reportedly lived with Doctor [redacted] in a house provided by ISIL, was allegedly bringing young girls to his home where he used to rape them.

Survivors also reported that ISIL fighters tried to prevent pregnancies either by providing pills or by giving injections, on a monthly or 3-monthly basis. Injections without explanation were common, causing some to become dizzy and others to lose consciousness. In some cases, the girls would stop getting their menstrual period following the injections. It is clear that avoiding pregnancies was meant to maintain the financial value of the girl or woman when sold on the market without children; but it also corroborates the intent to destroy the Yazidi community. With respect to avoiding pregnancy, survivors were assured that ISIL fighters would "take care of that". It was reported that ISIL fighters would endeavour not to ejaculate in the women during intercourse. In one case a survivor did not menstruate and was taken to a doctor who injected her with medication that caused a miscarriage. The use of unknown drugs, either to induce abortion or facilitate rape by rendering the victim more 'docile', is a critical consideration in terms of the health care for survivors in the aftermath of captivity.

IV- Profile of alleged perpetrators

There are many challenges associated with attempts to positively identify ISIL perpetrators. For instance, many of the names confirmed by the Office are "noms de guerre", by which militants are known to victims and witnesses. Survivors indicated that ISIL fighters would regularly change their pseudonyms as a strategy to confuse survivors and thereby protect their identities. Identification was further complicated by the fact that if women dared to stare at, or look directly in the eyes of an ISIL fighter, they would be beaten and brutalized. Nonetheless, some survivors memorized the names of ISIL fighters and sought to identify them by finding identity documents and providing pictures to the Office.

During their interviews, many survivors described women as playing a key role in the so-called Caliphate. This includes roles in the medical and educational fields, but also in the so-called "morality brigade." It is important to note that the survivors experienced difficulty in identifying the women involved due to the often numerous transfers they were subjected to, coupled with the fact that most of the female perpetrators were wearing traditional veils. Many survivors had limited Arabic language abilities and therefore were often unable to determine specific statements overheard during captivity.

In addition, it is important to note that security concerns continue to be raised for those survivors who have managed to escape or were released from captivity. In Germany, where a Special Quota Project for Especially Vulnerable Women and Children from Northern Iraq was initiated in January 2015 with more than 1000 Yazidis being hosted and supported, concerns have been expressed that between 6-8 girls are still having regular contact with ISIL fighters through the encrypted instant messaging tool, WhatsApp.

In extensive interviews with survivors they identified fighters involved in rape, sale or trade of women and girls from approximately 20 different countries, indicating that sexual violence crimes are part of ISIL's doctrine and widespread among fighters across different nationalities.

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The following information has been collected related to 11 individuals allegedly responsible for perpetrating sexual violence or being instrumental in facilitating the sale, trade and trafficking of women, girls and boys in the context of Iraq and Syria

Name: Emir [redacted]
AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Tel Afar, Iraq
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: Reports from survivors held in captivity, in Tel Afar, indicated that Emir [redacted] aka [redacted], originally from Mosul, was responsible for selling and buying Yazidis in Tel Afar. A group of married women described him as the person who executed the "fatwa" of 26 April 2015 that called for the separation of women from their children. They were initially spared from sexual violence until this "fatwa" was issued, after which their children were transferred to the madrassa Jihadia and they were allegedly subjected to sexual slavery.

Name: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Kirkuk, previously Tel Afar, Iraq
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: [redacted] was the person responsible for the Madrassa Jihadia and Jihadia Institute in Tel Afar. This was the madrassa where, following the "fatwa" of 26 April 2015, children of female captives were removed so that their mothers could be used as sex slaves. In January 2016, [redacted] was reportedly accused of corruption and transferred on the order of the Sharia court to Kirkuk, where he was ordered to fight against the Peshmerga.

Name: [redacted]
AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Mosul, Iraq
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, for selling and transferring arms and related material to Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: A survivor held in captivity in Mosul indicated that the [redacted], whose real name is [redacted], was responsible for selling and buying girls in Mosul. He is second in command after [redacted] aka [redacted]. [redacted] was also responsible for selling and buying cars and weapons. Subsequently, the survivor was informed that [redacted] may have been killed in an airstrike in August 2015.

Name: [redacted]
AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Tel Afar, Iraq and Raqqa, Syria
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: Survivors held in captivity in Raqqa indicated that the [redacted], whose real name is [redacted], was responsible for selling and buying girls in Tel Afar and Raqqa. He

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wrote his name on the palm of the hand of a Yazidi girl as his property during the "buying" process.

Name: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Raqqa, Syria
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: A survivor held in captivity in Raqqa indicated that the ISIL fighter [redacted] was responsible for trafficking young girls and women from Iraq to Syria, dividing them amongst his friends. Trafficking was not allowed to take place without his approval. He would periodically monitor the "trafficking business" in between fighting, visiting his official wife and raping his sex slaves. One of his rape victims recalled many phone calls overheard where he would give instructions where to transfer women and to whom they should be sold or gifted. He would also have instructed ISIL fighters what they should do to the girls. For instance, he once reportedly ordered that a group of 15 girls aged 9-10 years should be transferred to Raqqa and Mosul to be raped for half a day and then sold further.

Name/AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Raqqa, Syria
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: Survivors held in captivity in Raqqa indicated that the [redacted] was responsible for trafficking of girls in Raqqa. He was also head of a police station in Raqqa. The survivor described him as a man in his 60's.

Name: [redacted]
AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Iraq, in custody of Iraqi authorities
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: [redacted], also known as [redacted], was mentioned by a survivor for having sold many girls, with her husband [redacted] who was killed by American Special Forces in Iraq. The US filed a criminal complaint on 8 February 2016 against [redacted], who has been captured and is under arrest in Iraq, for providing material support and resources to a foreign terrorist organization which resulted in the death of a United States citizen, Ms. Kayla Jean Mueller. Even though the complaint chronicles extensive allegations of sexual violence, it seems that no charge regarding sexual violence on any basis has been levelled against [redacted] despite the role that she apparently played in planning and facilitating sexual slavery committed by ISIL.

Name/AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Mosul, Iraq and Tel Afar, Syria
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: [redacted] was the female perpetrator most frequently described by survivors as being involved with ISIL in Mosul and Tel Afar. Survivors could not give a description of her face as she was always covered in a burqa, nor could they confirm her real name. Survivors indicated that [redacted] was carrying out virginity tests and abortions at the request of ISIL. She would come to former schools, buildings or houses when survivors would lie to ISIL about their marital status. Survivors described her as a harsh person who did not hide her hatred of the Yazidis. The Office has been informed

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that [redacted] has defected from ISIL and returned to Kurdistan. It is not clear whether she has since been detained in Kurdistan.

Name: [redacted][16]
AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Raqqa, Syria
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, for recruiting for Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: [redacted] was described by a smuggler as a key perpetrator of sexual violence. Open sources reveal that [redacted] is also known as [redacted], a [redacted] girl from [redacted] who travelled to Syria and married an ISIL militant. Yazidis described her as someone who has influence and who is one of the confidants of Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi. She reportedly holds a position of power in Raqqa. Her husband is reportedly [redacted] who initiated the selling of girls from Mosul to Raqqa. According to one smuggler [redacted] was teaching Yazidi girls how to make and wear explosive suicide vests. She was also involved with the buying and selling of Yazidi girls. [redacted] is currently listed by the Sanctions Committee for her actions as a recruiter for Daesh, however, it appears that no charge regarding sexual violence has yet been levelled against [redacted] despite the role that she may have played in sexual slavery committed by ISIL.

Name/AKA: [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Mosul, Iraq
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: Survivors indicated that doctors were offered women and girls for their "own use" as was reported in the case of an Iraqi doctor, known as [redacted], who has been reportedly receiving girls from ISIL. It is also alleged that [redacted] has been involved in performing a number of functions to aid and abet sexual violence, including administration of hormone injections and performing abortions.

Name/AKA: Doctor [redacted]
Nationality: [redacted]
Location: Mosul, Iraq
Basis for listing: Planning, facilitating, preparing and perpetrating acts or activities under the name of and in support of Daesh, and for otherwise supporting acts or activities of Daesh.
Statement of case: [redacted] a doctor and director of a clinic in Mosul, who reportedly lived with [redacted] in a house provided by ISIL, was reportedly bringing young girls to their home where he used to rape them. It is also alleged that [redacted] has been involved in performing a number of functions to aid and abet sexual violence, including administration of hormone injections and performing abortions.

16 Individual listed on 28 Sep. 2015 by the Committee (with the reference QDi.356) as a Recruiter for Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, listed as Al-Qaida in Iraq (QDe.115), in the Syrian Arab Republic, and a key figure in the Al-Khanssaa brigade, a female ISIL brigade established in Al-Raqqa to enforce ISIL's interpretation of Sharia law.

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V- Recommendations Specific to the 1267 Committee

On the basis of the information and analysis of this report, as well as the last two Reports of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (S/2016/361/Rev.1 and S/2015/203):

1. The Committee gives due consideration to ensuring that conflict-related sexual violence and trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual violence/exploitation are explicitly included as a basis for listing, as well as in the narrative summary of reasons for listing, which is published on the Committee's website[17];

2. The Committee members give due consideration to proposing one or more of the individuals noted in Section IV of this report for listing/designation for sanctions by the Committee; and that the narrative summary of reasons for listing of individuals who may already be under sanctions by the Committee explicitly includes information on the use or facilitation of sexual violence;

3. Ensure that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict is able to brief the sanctions committee and submit information relevant to the work of the Committee, including the names of alleged perpetrators for possible designation including individuals responsible for, or instrumental in, facilitating the sale, trade and trafficking of women, girls and boys;

4. Encourage cooperation and information sharing between the Office and the Monitoring Team of the 1267 Committee, and ensure that the Monitoring Team also dedicates some resources in monitoring, analysis and reporting to the Committee on key aspects of sexual violence used as a tactic of terrorism and links with trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual violence and exploitation.

VI- Concluding observations and further policy recommendations

As per the estimate of the General Director of Yezidi Affairs at the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Endowment in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, more than 1800 Yezidi women and girls remain enslaved by ISIL in territories under its control in Iraq and Syria. This figure does not account for the number of other women and girls from minority groups or otherwise who may have experienced sexual violence. Therefore, and in light of the current Mosul operation and possible future operations in Raqqa, it is all the more important to understand how ISIL is using sexual violence, ensure that any evidence is preserved, and that those who are liberated or who manage to escape are protected and receive the necessary health and psychosocial services.

Their situation is particularly precarious given reports of the use of women and girls as human shields, their transfer to various strategic locations including Syria and possibly Raqqa, for use as human shields

[17] *In practice, the criteria for adding a name to the ISIL (Da'esh) & Al-Qaida Sanctions List set out in paragraphs 3 to 5 of resolution 2253 (2015) does not include any explicit reference to trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual violence/exploitation despite the recognition that "such human trafficking may support the perpetrators financially (...) and that any person or entity who transfers funds to ISIL directly or indirectly in connection with such exploitation and abuse would be eligible for listing by the Committee" (S/RES/2253). It is only in the case of Boko Haram that the narrative summary of reasons for listing explicitly includes information on the use of sexual slavery, as follows: "On April 14, 2014, Boko Haram abducted approximately 300 girls from a school in northern Nigeria. Abubakar Mohammed Shekau claimed responsibility for the attack in a video released by Boko Haram and threatened to sell the girls into slavery."*

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and/or for further trafficking. For example, threats have been reportedly made by ISIL to kill Yazidi women currently being held hostage, should Iraqi forces move closer.

The pattern of abducting families in Mosul is also a tool consistently used by ISIL since the beginning of the Mosul operation. Although there is no indication of the use of sexual violence in this context, the risk cannot be ruled out.

In the context of continued and acute vulnerability of civilians to sexual violence, the Office makes the following recommendations to the Security Council, other policy bodies and authorities:

1) Interviews with women or girls, about sexual violence should be conducted in an ethical manner in line with internationally agreed guidelines and standards. An important concern is that victims may be seen as an agent or affiliate of terrorist groups, or as a vital intelligence asset, instead of being seen as victims.

2) Medical care, including sexual and reproductive health care, as well as psychosocial support for victims of sexual violence must be assured and clear referral pathways established. Victims of sexual violence by terrorist groups should be recognized as victims of terrorism, in order to pave the way for them to access livelihood support, including reparations programmes.

3) A number of registration offices exist for missing persons, such as the Yazidi registration office in the Kurdistan region. Ensuring that these lists are updated and matched with those who have been liberated or escaped is essential, and coordination among these offices is important. It is also important to put in place a family tracing and reunification programme; including through the establishment of hotlines. Victims may have lost many family members and their homes. Interim/safe housing for these victims must be considered. Victim reintegration with surviving family members must be done safely and in an orderly process. Asylum processes abroad must also be considered.

4) Major evidentiary sites, noted in UN reporting, that may support the investigation and prosecution of ISIL members should be secured to the extent possible in light of the prevailing security situation. It will be important to be prepared to take photographic and other evidence of key sites. Evidence of genocide, crimes against humanity, and serious violations of international humanitarian law committed by ISIL (Da'esh) in the territory of Iraq or against Iraqi nationals will be key to ensuring that those responsible are held accountable in future judicial proceedings. It is important to note, in that context, that a Joint Communiqué between the Government of Iraq and the United Nations on the Prevention and Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence was signed on 23 September 2016, emphasizing a number of priority actions including the need to ensure accountability for conflict-related sexual violence crimes committed by ISIL (Da'esh). Support of the international community to the implementation of the Joint Communiqué is therefore crucial.

5) It is important to ensure that in the course of the asylum process, survivors of conflict-related sexual violence are provided with access to adequate services including medical and psychosocial support in refugee receiving countries. It is important to recognize that refugees, and especially survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, were in many cases subjected to international crimes of the gravest concern, including war crimes, crimes against humanity and even acts of genocide. Member States receiving refugees have an obligation to ensure that allegations of sexual violence are duly investigated. This will secure information and evidence in a timely fashion for future accountability processes, whenever or wherever they might occur. Due consideration should be given to sexual violence crimes in the process of evaluating asylum claims and refugee status.

6) In the context of counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism initiatives, priority should also be placed on monitoring, tracking and disrupting the use of technological platforms and communications

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tools that are being used to facilitate the on-line sale, trade and trafficking of women, girls and boys for purposes of sexual slavery and exploitation

7) Efforts should also be made to engage more strategically and systematically with religious and traditional leaders to curb violent extremism, counter justification of sexual or other violence on religious grounds and addressing the stigmatization suffered by survivors of sexual violence and facilitating their return and reintegration in families and communities

8) Finally, for greater coherence we should ensure that National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security, Comprehensive Strategies on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and National Plans on Preventing Violent Extremism are well coordinated and cross-referenced.

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Annexes[18]

[18] Classified: Not attached. Embargoed.